



Keep God First in Your Thoughts

The coronavirus has thrown a wrench in Morgan's college planning. She would like to go to college outside Alaska, but will colleges even be doing in-person classes in the fall? Raise your hand if you are finding it harder to plan for the future. Yes! It is hard to plan when the future has so many unknowns.

The increased uncertainty injected in our lives by the coronavirus can be disorienting or even paralyzing. But we can center ourselves by remembering that what we have in Jesus Christ has not changed. And it is the most important stuff!

Here are seven things the coronavirus has not changed.

1. GOD'S CHARACTER

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1:17).

2. GOD'S WORD

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever" (Isaiah 40:8).

3. GOD'S LOVE

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"
1 Chronicles 16:34).

4. GOD'S PLAN TO SAVE THE WORLD IN CHRIST

⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.
(Ephesians 3:8-12).

5. JESUS'S INTERCESSION FOR US

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. (Romans 8:34).

6. JUDGMENT DAY

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead. (Acts 17:30–31).

7. HEAVEN AS THE BELIEVER'S ULTIMATE END

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Peter 1:3-5).

With so much that is still certain about our future, we can make plans. Let us plan to keep God first in our lives and to do whatever we can to get out the good news of God's love manifest in Jesus Christ.

Mike Merriner, Lead Pastor
907-727-1382

mike.merriner@clearwater.church

Stay Connected Through Our Facebook Page

Learn what new online events are coming up, such as Saturday Night Kahoot! Quiz. Watch live worship services -Thursdays at 7 PM and Sundays at 10 AM--and nightly 7 PM devotionals.



ISAIAH: God's Story of Hope

We've begun a new sermon series on the Old Testament book Isaiah that will take us into August. Read through the longest major prophet with this [schedule](#), and check out the Bible Project's animation video overviewing the first 39 Chapters: [Overview: Isaiah 1-39](#)

Nightly 7 PM Devotions at [Facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak](https://www.facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak)

Since April 13 we have been “hunkered down” due to the Corvid-19 pandemic. Tune in for online social connection. Thank you to the many devotional leaders: Greg and Melody Balaco, Becky Butler, Bill and Kim Burgess, Bronwyn Embree, Ella Embree, James Embree, Steve Gordon, Corrie and Nick Hruby, Doug and LeAnn Ketterer and Family, Joy and Luke Merriner, Aubrey Merriner, Mike Merriner, Morgan Merriner, Sabrina Merriner, Justin and Leah Meyring, Greg and Jill Moody, Jillian Moody, Kelan Moody, Madison, Moody, Isaac and Siri Owen, Caleb and Sofia Swan, Brian and Kristin Whitson, Elizabeth Whitson, Ellen Whitson, Evelyn Whitson, and Everett Whitson.

Previous nightly devotions are available on our Facebook page.



National Day of Prayer - May 7

National Broadcast airing 4-6 PM Alaska Time at www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

Church Campout - May 22-25

Our annual church camping trip to Eklutna Lake State Park is still on for Memorial Day weekend (May 22-25). Here's what the State Park service said this week: "Yes! We are planning to have it open then and if anything changes we will contact you. Thanks! Wendy" Of course we will need to follow social distancing guidelines, but we can do that and still have a nice time up at the lake. So plan on being there! There is space for RV's and tents. More details will be coming as the day gets closer.

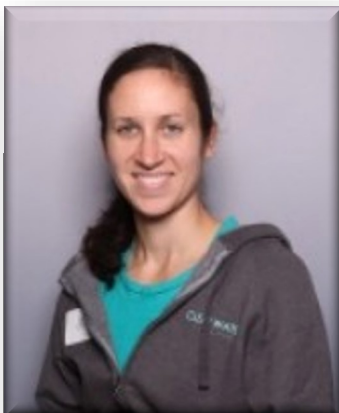


CONGRATS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES



Max Embree - Frontier Charter and Diamond High School, May 2020. He is valedictorian for his class. During his High School time he was Anchorage Youth Court Vice President, judge and attorney. In cross country running he was most improved and most inspirational. Took first place in a state competition in conversational Japanese. He volunteers at Clear Water church for technical and set up, plus he helps with watching children. He will be attending Taylor University and pursue an Engineering Degree then get a Master's in his desired field of chemical engineering. He has received the Taylor Community Scholarship, Holbrook Family Scholarship and Korean Scholarship.

Zoe Flannery - Alaska Pacific University, April 25, 2020. Bachelor of Arts in Counseling Psychology. Currently serving in a direct care role with AK Child and Family. Future plans include training and upward movement within the agency over the next few years. She hopes to pursue a double Masters in Education and in Psychology with a focus on culturally humble healthcare.



Sonya Hood - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, September 2019. Master of Science in Aeronautics, Space Studies. I will be given my regalia at the USS Midway graduation, San Diego, CA in August 2020. Continue to work for the US Space Command at Clear AFS, AK part time, and use further education and knowledge with aeronautics to better my career at the Airport Police and Fire Department.



Morgan Merriner
Anchorage Christian School, May 14, 2020. Plans to attend college in the fall. The school is undecided.

Kelan Moody
Moody School of Excellence thru IDEA, December 2019. Kelan's future plans are in film editing and design.



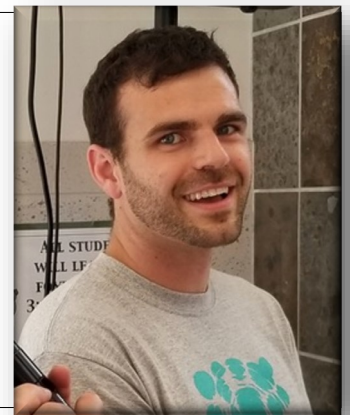
Madison Moody
Created Institute, Black Mtn. NC, December 2019 with an Associates of Arts in critical thinking and Integrative Studies. Plans to attend Bryan College in Dayton, TN to study business.

DaNae Nagel - Denali Peak Home School, June 6, 2020. Future plan is to attend Bryan College in Dayton, TN on a Sporting Clays Scholarship.



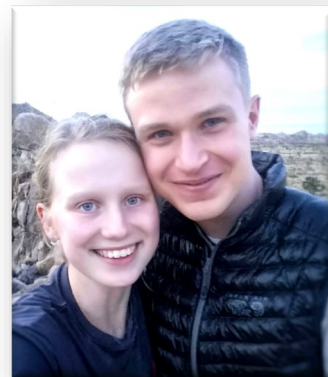
Amy Wilson
University of Alaska Anchorage, December 2019. Child Development. Future plan is interning internationally with CRU.

Kyle Wilson
University of Alaska Anchorage, December 2019.



WEDDING BELLS ARE A-RINGING”

Dalan Merriner and Sara Newton will wed May 16 in a civil ceremony. They plan to have their celebratory wedding next summer after the pandemic has had a chance to run its course.



CARE CONCERNS

Prayer and Speedy Recovery

Anne Barnett
Karen Gordon
Brian Whitson

For anyone who has suffered from the Covid-19 pandemic.



Condolences

Marge Olson passed away April 12, Easter morning. Mike Merriner will be leading a memorial service on May 9 at 11am. The memorial service will be live on Clear Water Church's Facebook page.

Josh Adams in the loss his father April 28.

THE MEMORY VERSE **BIGGER** CHALLENGE - May 8 at 7 PM



Tune into our Facebook Live 7 PM devotion on May 8 to learn our winner for this year's BIGGER Memory Verse Challenge. Great job to those who've participated in at least five of the last eight memory verse challenges:

Bill Burgess, Kim Burgess, Becky Butler, Ali Gutacker, Corrie Hruby, Douglas Ketterer, Karla Kluesner, and Greg Moody.

If you think your name should be on this list, contact admin@clearwater.church. See the rules [here](#).

Congratulations to Memory Verse Challenge Winners for:

March - Becky Butler and Ali Gutacker

April - Kim Burgess and Doug Ketterer

May's Memory Verse is [Isaiah 12:2-3](#) - *Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

The May's Memory Verse Challenge will be held
Thursday, May 28 and Sunday, May 31

ON MISSION

Eubanks Update

As COVID 19 has swept the world, changing the everyday lives of so many people across all social lines, we are praying with you on what is a right and faithful response, that not only respects life but celebrates it, even in these uncertain and fearful times. In this video, Dave Eubank and his family share their thoughts. [YouTube](#) link.

Recent Mission Offerings

Alaska YoungLives - \$2000 is going toward funding their summer camp whether it happens in state this year or gets postponed to next summer.

Jeff Wheaton, Free Burma Rangers - \$2000 went to relocation expenses as Jeff returned from six years on the mission field with FBR.

Clear Water Church gives 10% of every contribution we receive back to local and global Christian ministries. Thank you for your continued support.

MISCELLANEOUS

Clear Water staff now have unique email addresses. Please update your address book.

Mike Merriner – mike.merriner@clearwater.church

James Embree – james.embree@clearwater.church

Brian Whitson – brian.whitson@clearwater.church

Sofia Swan – sofia.swan@clearwater.church

Becky Butler – becky.butler@clearwater.church

Amy Martin – amy.martin@clearwater.church

Sabrina Merriner – sabrina.merriner@clearwater.church

Office (Louise Witt) – admin@clearwater.church

SOCIAL MEDIA



www.clearwater.church



[Facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak](https://www.facebook.com/clearwaterchurchak)



Follow us on [Instagram](#)

Get the Clear Water Church App for Apple and Android devices. Search for “**clear water church ak**” in the Apple and Google store. It’s free. Have easy access to sermons, the memory verse, online giving, church events, the Bible, a daily Bible reading plan and more.

Give Us Your Feedback - What do you think about Currents, Clear Water Church’s newsletter? What would you like added? Click [here](#) and let us know. We welcome your input.

The due date for submissions to the next edition of Currents is May 21st.
Send articles and photos to admin@clearwater.church.